



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: A.N. Neogi et al. Attorney Docket No.: 25194  
Application No.: 10/602,208 Group Art Unit: 3725  
Filed: June 23, 2003  
Title: METHODS FOR ESTERIFYING HYDROXYL GROUPS IN WOOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

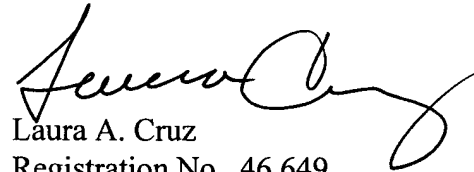
TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicants are aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. X Copies of the listed patents, publications, and other information are enclosed for the Examiner's use.
2. X Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
3. X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application. A copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR  
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Laura A. Cruz

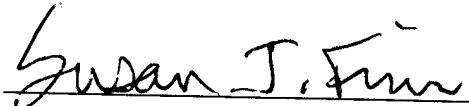
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TO THE PROSECUTION OF THE SUBJECT APPLICATION

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Kind Code	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Name
_____	U1	4,804,384		02/14/1989	Rowell et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Document No.	Kind Code	Publication Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Country	English Abstract Provided	Translation Provided
_____	F1	WO 03/053105	A1	June 26, 2003	PCT		X

OTHER INFORMATION

*Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Description (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
_____	O1	"Acetylation of Wood - An Environmentally Sound Wood Modification Method," A-Cell Acetyl Cellulosics AB.
_____	O2	Beckers, E.P.J. and H. Militz, "Acetylation of Solid Wood: Initial Trials on Lab and Semi Industrial Scale," <i>Second Pacific Rim Bio-Based Composites Symposium Proceedings</i> , Vancouver, Canada, November 6-9, 1994, pp. 125-134.
_____	O3	Brelid, P.L., "The Influence of Post-Treatments on Acetyl Content for Removal of Chemicals After Acetylation," <i>Holz als Roh und Werkstoff</i> 60:92-95, 2002.
_____	O4	Brelid, P.L., et al., "Acetylation of Solid Wood Using Microwave Heating, Part 1: Studies of Dielectric Properties," <i>Holz als Roh und Werkstoff</i> 57:259-263, 1999.
_____	O5	Brelid, P.L., and R. Simonson, "Acetylation of Solid Wood Using Microwave Heating, Part 2: Experiments in Laboratory Scale," <i>Holz als Roh und Werkstoff</i> 57:383-389, 1999.

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- O6 Chow, P., et al., "Effects of Acetylation on the Dimensional Stability and Decay Resistance of Kenaf (*Hibiscus cannabinus* L.) Fiberboard," *The International Research Group on Wood Preservation 27th Annual Meeting*, West Indies, May 19-24, 1996, pp. 1-7.
- O7 Evans, P.D., "Weathering and Stabilisation of Wood," *ANU Forestry-Forest Product Technology*, pp. 1-4, 2000.
- O8 Feist, W.C., et al., "Weathering and Finish Performance of Acetylated Aspen Fiberboard," *Wood and Fiber Science* 23(2):260-272, 1991.
- O9 Hill, C.A.S., et al., "Kinetic and Mechanistic Aspects of the Acetylation of Wood with Acetic Anhydride," *Holzforschung* 52:623-629, 1998.
- O10 Hill, C.A.S., et al., "Potential Catalysts for the Acetylation of Wood," *Holzforschung* 54:629-272, 2000.
- O11 Ramsden, M.J., and F.S.R. Blake, "A Kinetic Study of the Acetylation of Cellulose Hemicellulose and Lignin Components in Wood," *Wood Science and Technology* 31:45-50, 1997.
- O12 Rowell, R.M., "Acetyl Balance for the Acetylation of Wood Particles by a Simplified Procedure," *Holzforshung* 44(4):263-269, 1990.
- O13 Rowell, R.M., et al., "Acetyl Distribution in Acetylated Whole Wood and Reactivity of Isolated Wood Cell-Wall Components to Acetic Anhydride," *Wood and Fiber Science* 26(1):11-18, 1994.
- O14 Takahashi, M., et al., "Effect of Acetylation on Decay Resistance of Wood Against Brown-Rot, White-Rot and Soft-Rot Fungi," *The International Research Group on Wood Preservation 20th Annual Meeting*, Lappeenranta, Finland, May 22-26, 1989, pp. 1-16.
- O15 Tillman, A.-M., et al., "Dimensional Stability and Resistance to Biological Degradation of Wood Products by a Simplified Acetylation Procedure," *Oral Presentations of the Fourth International Symposium on Wood and Pulping Chemistry*, Paris, April 27-30, 1987, pp. 125-129.

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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